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# VanLonely High rent, few friends

Cost of living the next hurdle in the city's fight for friendliness. Page 10.

## CREEPY-CRAWLY CUISINE

**Deep-fried tarantulas will be just one of the creepy, crawly culinary creations that David George Gordon, the so-called "bug chef" from Seattle, will be cooking up at Hawkers Market in Mount Pleasant on Saturday. Story, page 8.** COURTESY CHUGRAD MCANDREWS

# Cameras set to roll on Pickton film

**Downtown Eastside.** Movie's focus on lives of victims, not killer, says production team

A new movie about Canada's worst serial killer, Robert Pickton, begins filming in Vancouver next week.

The movie is being produced for CBC TV and is being filmed under the working title Full Flood. It is based on the book On the Farm by Stevie Cameron.

According to a production note obtained by Metro, which was sent to families of Pickton's victims, the focus of the movie will not be Pickton but the lives of the women who disappeared from the Downtown Eastside and whose remains were found during an 18-month search of Pickton's farm in Port Coquitlam that began in 2002.

The movie production has hired Doreen Manuel to do "community outreach" with the families of Pickton's victims.

"As we embark on this project, one of our foremost concerns is to ensure that we are telling this story in a manner that is sensitive and respectful to those who have had to live through this tragedy," Manuel said in the note.

"While taking its cue from the book On the Farm, our movie will be telling the story of fictional characters, specifically women of the Downtown Eastside, set against the background of the events of 1995 to 2001.

"This is not a movie about Mr. Pickton. While he is referenced and appears in a few scenes, this is not a story about him — rather it's a story about life in the Downtown Eastside as seen and experienced by the people who lived and worked there during that time.

"Our aim is to make their story better understood by the widest possible audience, to stimulate discussion — and hopefully, change."

Manuel told the families that a website was being set up to discuss the issues and a Facebook page — which will only be accessible to family members and the filmmakers — has been established to provide discussion.

The movie's producer is Rupert Harvey and the director is Rachel Talalay, a University of British Columbia film professor who directed last year's final episodes of the British TV series Doctor Who.

NEAL HALL/METRO

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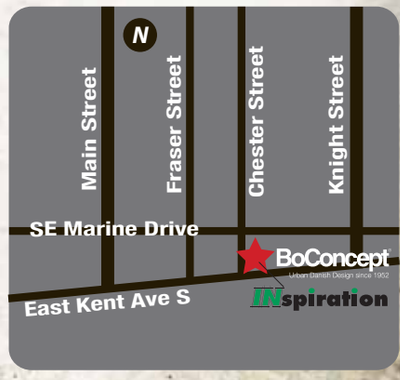


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## Parks. Entry fees getting too costly: NDP MLA

Camping in British Columbia's great outdoors is a rite of passage for many families, but one that's becoming too pricey, an NDP MLA says.

Vancouver West End MLA Spencer Chandra Herbert is warning annual park fee increases could become the norm after getting a hold of new Ministry of Environment records through a Freedom of Information request.

The document prepared for Minister Mary Polak, labelled as a "draft for discussion" and dated Dec. 1, 2014, proposed government "look at regularized increases as a way to allow fees to keep pace with costs."

Park fees are already on the rise. This year, most campground fees are increasing by $2 per night, while others see slightly larger increases between $3 and $5.

Continued increases could see families priced out of camping in public parks, Chandra Herbert worries.

"Fee hike after fee hike could make camping unaffordable for people," he said. "I don't like that there are people in my riding who tell us that they can't just afford to go camping."

Despite the rising fees, the memo says B.C. Parks have continued to make cuts to staff and services — a sign of government underfunding, the MLA claims. A statement from the Ministry of Environment says the increased fees are expected to generate $1.3 million, which will go back into parks and protected areas.

Options for ensuring a sustainable park system long-term "are conceptual only" at this time, the government said.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

# Family mourning the death of two sisters

### Coquitlam. Friend looking to raise funds for memorial bench

THANDI FLETCHER
thandi.fletcher@metronews.ca

A Coquitlam family is grieving the tragic loss of two daughters who died less than two weeks apart.

Shiloh Johnston, who would have turned 23 on Feb. 24, was going for a midday walk when she was struck and killed in a two-car crash in Burnaby on Feb. 17.

The crash happened 10 days after Shiloh's sister Keziah, 20, died of undisclosed causes.

"They were both really happy, positive girls," cousin Janica Lucas told Metro. "They loved life and they loved people ... and they were always saying how much they loved each other."

Shiloh was standing on the corner of Canada Way at Gardner Court around 12:30 p.m. when a white Infinity travelling eastbound collided with a grey Volkswagen turning eastbound onto Canada Way from Carey Avenue. According to RCMP, the Infinity skidded along the centre median, crossed two lanes of traffic and hit a power pole before striking Shiloh, who was standing at the corner.

She was rushed to Royal Columbian Hospital but was pronounced dead.

As they are awaiting a coroner's report, the family declined to comment on the circumstances of Keziah's death except to say it was "unexpected and not intentional."

Keziah Johnston, left, and sister Shiloh of Coquitlam, B.C., died tragically within 10 days of each other. FACEBOOK

Friends and family are struggling to come to grips with the deaths of both women within such a short time frame.

Shiloh worked at Centura Tile while Keziah had just finished an esthetician program and was excited to start work as a nail technician, said Lucas.

**Contact**

**Anyone with information is asked to contact Burnaby RCMP at 604-294-7922.**

Amanda Masih, a longtime friend of the sisters, started a GoFundMe.com campaign to raise money for a memorial bench for both sisters.

Masih said Shiloh originally came up with the idea after her sister's death.

"It's just something that Shiloh really wanted to do for her sister," Masih said. "To see her lose her sister was so tough. She was so heartbroken."

Lucas said Shiloh was in the process of planning a celebration of life for her sister. Now the event, taking place at 10 a.m. on March 7 at Friendship Baptist Church, will be for both sisters.

Burnaby RCMP is continuing to investigate. Police believe speed may have been a factor and investigators are looking for two drivers they believe may have witnessed the crash.

The first driver was in a red vehicle seen leaving the northwest parking lot of BCIT, while the second driver was in a black pickup truck. Both vehicles were seen travelling eastbound on Canada Way.

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## Accessibility. No elevators at Metrotown stop for 1 year

Transit riders who can't take the stairs won't be able to get off at Metrotown SkyTrain station for approximately one year.

TransLink shut down the station's sole elevator on Thursday in order to construct three new elevators at the aging and busy Expo Line stop.

While TransLink recognizes this will be a major headache for passengers with disabilities or strollers, it claims the only alternative was shutting down the entire station completely throughout the course of construction.

Instead, passengers with disabilities must take HandyDART shuttles from Patterson Station. Those with strollers can take community shuttles from both Patterson and Royal Oak stations.

The shuttles will run every 15 to 20 minutes on Monday to Friday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sundays and holidays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Richard Marion, chairman of the Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee, acknowledged the shutdown will be challenging for some, but said there will be a huge improvement for people with mobility aids once construction is complete.

Passengers are encouraged to give themselves extra travel time throughout construction.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

## Court. Family opposes outings from hospital for B.C. man who killed 3 kids

A panel considering whether a father who murdered his three children should be granted outings from a psychiatric hospital has heard the B.C. man wants to take a rehabilitation course in cooking bacon.

A caseworker for Allan Schoenborn has told the B.C. Review Board that the man is making progress by considering the very specific course after refusing most programs.

Doctors at a facility in Coquitlam are advocating for Schoenborn's supervised release nearly seven years after he stabbed and smothered his children in their Merritt, B.C., home.

But a spokesman for Darcie Clark, the children's mother, says the family wants Schoenborn to be labelled high risk so he won't be permitted to leave the hospital grounds.

**Quoted**

**"This review board likes to work in silence from their ivory tower and not allow the public to see what's going on."**

Dave Teixeira, spokesman for the family of the murdered children

A Crown lawyer at the hearing opposed Schoenborn's release, listing 11 instances of verbal or physical confrontations over the past year that she says demonstrate anger issues that pose a threat to the public.

Schoenborn was found not criminally responsible due to a mental disorder after stabbing and smothering 10-year-old Kaitlynne, eight-year-old Max and five-year-old Cordon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

John Nuttall and Amanda Korody are shown in a still image taken from RCMP undercover video. RCMP/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# 'I want to kill': B.C. terror suspect

**Trial.** Accused in Canada Day bomb plot tells officer in video: 'I want some payback'

A British Columbia man accused of plotting to bomb the provincial legislature on Canada Day appeared eager to carry out the attack in the days leading up to the holiday, telling an undercover RCMP officer they were in the middle of a war, his trial has heard.

John Nuttall and his wife Amanda Korody are accused of planning a foiled terrorist attack in Victoria on July 1, 2013. They were arrested after an undercover investigation that captured dozens of hours of video and audio recordings, which are now being played for a jury.

The latest video, recorded on June 28, features Nuttall and Korody with an undercover officer, who they believe is an Arab businessman helping them execute their plan. The officer is driving the couple around the Vancouver area as they pick up bomb-making supplies and then visit a mosque.

Nuttall is still working out the details of his plan, such as where in Victoria they should plant their homemade pressure-cooker bombs and how they should set them off.

"I want some payback," Nuttall, a recent convert to Islam, tells the officer in the video played in B.C. Supreme Court on Thursday.

"I want to kill some (non-believers). It's justified fully. I need no fatwa, brother. I am clean in my heart. I know what I'm doing is right."

Later, Nuttall tells the officer: "This is a war."

The jury has watched hours of surveillance video, including many instances in which Nuttall refers to Islam to justify his plans. He has railed against the Canadian military's involvement in Muslim countries and declared his hatred of Canada.

Nuttall has previously suggested he converted to Islam about a year and a half earlier and immediately started asking questions about jihad.

He found the plans for homemade pressure-cooker bombs in an al-Qaida-affiliated magazine titled Inspire, which he downloaded from the Internet. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# City finalizes plan to rename street Pat Quinn Way

**Pat Quinn.** Vancouver city council preparing to honour key builder of Canucks franchise

The city block in front of Rogers Arena will soon be named in memory of beloved Vancouver Canuck Pat Quinn.

In response to a request from the mayor, the city's planning department has recommended renaming the 700 block of Abbott Street between Expo and Pacific boulevards to Pat Quinn Way to recognize his contributions to the city.

The city doesn't typically rename streets due to emergency response concerns, so it also considered renaming a plaza south of the Pacific Coliseum to honour Quinn, according to a report going to council soon.

But staff consulted with Quinn's family and determined the street name was more significant since Quinn was instrumental in the hockey team's move to Rogers Arena in 1995.

The Civic Asset Naming Committee isn't concerned about losing the historical reference to Canadian Pacific Railway executive Henry Braithwaite Abbott since the 700-block is a recent extension of the 100-year-old street.

Nor will the change be a hassle from an address retention perspective, as Rogers Arena is the only business in the area and is located on Griffiths Way.

The fire department also has no problem with the change.

The idea to rename the street was first proposed by radio host Tom Mayenknecht in November 2014 shortly after Quinn's death.

Council is expected to approve the recommendation next week. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

The 700-block of Abbott Street will be renamed Pat Quinn Way. CONTRIBUTED

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## Kamloops. Jury convicts man of second degree murder in friend's death

A man who stabbed his friend 73 times wept as a jury convicted him of second-degree murder for a second time in a Kamloops courtroom.

A jury on Wednesday found Cory Bird, 27, guilty of killing Albert Michell in 2008 after he claimed self-defence by arguing he woke up to discover his friend was sexually assaulting him.

Michell, 40, died in his apartment on the Siska Indian Band reserve south of Lytton.

A judge alone initially convicted Bird of second-degree murder at his first trial in 2011, but the B.C. appeal court overturned the decision and ordered a new trial.

Bird's lawyer, Sheldon Tate, portrayed the victim as a sexual predator who had previously assaulted another man.

But Crown prosecutor Bernie Caffaro described Bird's attack on Michell as brutal, saying that Bird was almost unscathed and that showed the violence was deliberate.

"Mr. Michell's body is important," Caffaro said. "It tells you a story, a story of frenzied, brutal violence — an attack with such intensity and speed (Bird) barely had any defensive wounds."

Bird's adoptive parents and sister attended part of the trial.

"We were hoping for manslaughter," said his mother, Fennalies Riemersma, naming a lesser offence.

She said Bird hopes to attend college or university when he is eventually released on parole.

The jury made no sentencing recommendation. Lawyers will argue Bird's new sentence at a hearing later this year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. liquor stores

### Lottery to decide who can move into grocery stores

A lottery system will be used to determine which liquor stores will be allowed to move into grocery stores or new locations, the British Columbia government says.

The provincial government outlined the new system on Thursday, after making sweeping liquor reforms last year that allow for liquor to be sold at grocery stores using a store-in-store model.

Existing private and public liquor stores interested in relocating to grocery stores or to other parts of the province will be given a four-week window to apply starting Feb. 27. All applicants will be placed in a lottery and drawn at random. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

B.C. Court of Appeal

### Province not liable for logging firm's damages

British Columbia's top court says the province isn't liable for nearly $2 million in damages suffered by a logging company as a result of a First Nations' blockade.

The case in the B.C. Court of Appeal pitted the provincial government, Moulton Contracting Ltd., and several members of the Fort Nelson First Nation against each other. The government appealed, and Justice Risa Levine says the main issue focused on the timber licence and who is liable for third-party interference.

Levine says the lower-court judge erred in his ruling and set aside the order requiring the province to pay $1.75 million in damages. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# B.C. called out for private school funding

The British Columbia Teachers' Federation (BCTF) is crying foul after the provincial government increased funding of private schools by $5 million this year because of the teachers' strike.

BCTF president Jim Iker claims the additional $5 million is a result of government deliberately adding the BCTF's $82-million Labour Settlement Fund into its public-private school funding formula.

At the same time government is boosting its funding of private schools, public school administrators are being asked to cut $29 million from their budgets this year, and another $25 million next year.

"What happened was private schools got an additional $5 million because of our collective bargaining efforts, our sacrifices and our strike," Iker told Metro. "I think that sets the wrong priority. That money should be invested in public schools."

An opinion-editorial released by Minster of Education Peter Fassbender on Thursday argues that public schools will see an increase of $576 million in funding over the next three years, with total education funding next year topping $5 billion.

The required $29 million cut in administration costs amounts to just 0.5 per cent of school district spending, he wrote.

Still, Iker argues B.C. falls way below the Canadian average of per-student funding when it comes to public schools.

"We're still waiting for significant improvements in the classroom," he said. "There hasn't been a lot of difference yet. Conditions need to be improved."

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO


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2012 NISSAN ALTIMA
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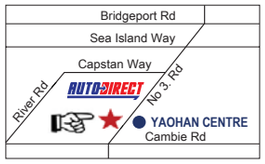


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# 'Bug Chef' brings insects to local tables

**Food.** David Gordon challenges people to at least try a bite before pushing the idea away

THANDI FLETCHER
thandi.fletcher@metronews.ca

Seattle-based naturalist David George Gordon. COURTESY JEFF COLE

David George Gordon likes it when ants come to his picnic.

The Seattle-based naturalist, known as the Bug Chef, has earned a reputation worldwide for his love of cooking insects. On Saturday, Gordon, author of the bestselling Eat-a-Bug cookbook, is bringing his expertise to Vancouver for a cooking demonstration at Hawkers Market in Mount Pleasant.

"People call me the godfather of insects," he said with a laugh.

While some people may find eating bugs repulsive, Gordon challenges people to at least try a bite before swatting the idea away. He said countries around the world eat a wide variety of insects as dietary staples.

In parts of Africa, beetles are a popular snack while grilled locusts are a crunchy treat in Thailand. In Mexico, agave worms, especially when dropped in bottles of mescal liquor, are a mainstay, as are grasshoppers marinated in chilli and lime.

"In our culture, we're bug bashers. We think that insects are germy and disgusting, which is far from the truth," he said.

"But 80 per cent of the world's cultures already eat bugs.

"We're kind of the weirdos that don't."

On Saturday, Gordon will be cooking with a variety of crawly critters from crickets to scorpions and a personal favourite, tarantulas.

For newcomers to insect cuisine, Gordon recommended batter-coated tempura tarantulas or grasshoppers dipped in chocolate, since they don't look like insects.

"We do eat with our eyes," he said.

Any insects Gordon doesn't recommend? Raw cockroaches, which he said could contain parasites that can be transmitted to people if not cooked properly.

Tomato hornworms also aren't the most appetizing dish, even for Gordon.

"They're really big green caterpillars," he said.

"They look like little green sausages. I could tell that my stomach was questioning my judgment on that."

Tickets for Gordon's cooking demonstration, which takes place at 5 p.m., are available for $10 in advance or $15 at the door at hwkrsmrkt.eventbrite.ca.

Saanich

## Police investigate deaths of two people

Authorities are investigating after two people were found dead in a house in Saanich, just north of Victoria.

Saanich police would only say their investigation is in its preliminary stages and there is no concern for public safety.

The Vancouver Island Integrated Major Crime Unit and the B.C. Coroners Service are also probing the incident inside a home in a residential neighbourhood.

The bodies were found Wednesday night.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# VanLonely Blame it on the bills

**Part 2.** Vancouver's high cost of living is driving social isolation. Pricey housing means people work long hours and have little time to make and maintain friendships. The city is trying to help, but will it be enough?

THANDI FLETHCER
AND EMILY JACKSON
vancouver@metronews.ca

Daianna Panni remembers a time when Vancouver seemed friendlier.

She doesn't know why that changed, but in recent years, the born-and-raised Vancouverite said a thread became snagged in the social fabric of the city.

"People seem like they're on guard, like 'Why are you talking to me? Are you trying to sell me something? Are you trying to pick me up?'" she said. "It used to be a lot friendlier here, but it's just shaped over time to be more unfriendly."

A 2012 survey conducted by the Vancouver Foundation confirmed her observation: residents are concerned about a growing sense of isolation in the city and say it is difficult to make new friends here. The survey led the city to create the Engaged City Task Force to tackle the problem.

The task force rolled out a number of initiatives and is currently working on tackling what Paul Kershaw, founder of the Generation Squeeze campaign and a professor in the University of B.C.'s School of Population and Public Health, believes is the largest contributor to loneliness: high cost of living.

### Chilly perception

Asked why Vancouver's unfriendly perception persists, few can pinpoint why residents of such a warm city (for Canada's standards) can be so downright chilly.

Kershaw has a theory. He believes loneliness in Vancouver, at least for younger residents, is tied to an alarming trend: young people are earning thousands of dollars less than their parents did a generation ago.

Although the problem is Canada-wide, Kershaw said it's "disproportionately more challenging" in Vancouver, where housing costs are notoriously high.

"This city makes it harder to be a young person than anywhere else on the continent," he said.

With people moving to more affordable areas, Kershaw said friendships are spread out over large geographic distances. Combined with working longer hours, he said residents struggle to find time to socialize. Kershaw said the constant struggle to make ends meet in Vancouver sends people into such a low state of mind they start to question if they'll find success.

"It erodes confidence the moment you start asking that question," he said. "If you're eroding confidence … that can definitely erode cheeriness."

### City aims to help

Through the Engaged City Task Force, the city is taking steps it hopes will ease the crunch on those most affected by high housing prices — namely, renters and newcomers.

One initiative is the Renters Advisory Committee, which will help give residents who don't own homes a voice at city hall, where owners tend to be louder. Tracy Vaughn, the city's senior engagement planner, said the renters committee is a "fantastic door into sub groups" that will give council a wider decision-making lens.

Other city initiatives include a 311 smartphone app that gives residents an avenue to complain or ask questions.

The city is also developing a Charter of Roles, Rights and Responsibilities for the planning process to prevent residents from being surprised when condo projects crop up.

It may seem a stretch to connect real estate development with social isolation, but Coun. Andrea Reimer argues citizens feel a sense of inclusion if their voices are heard during community consultations — especially in a diverse city with a wide income gap.

"There's no land left, so planning discussions are very pointed," she said. "You can't just keep trying to have the same discussion."

Although she has lived in Vancouver her entire life, Panni said even she has experienced bouts of difficulty in making new friends. She turned to social networking websites where she organizes a brunch group to expand her social circle.

While she has found success, Panni feels for newcomers to Vancouver who attempt to make new friends but are met with a frosty response.

"if you you keep getting rejected, you stop trying," she said.

**By the numbers**

**15**

A July 2010 review published in the journal Plos Medicine found that people lived longer if they had more friends. Being lonely is as bad for a person's health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day or being an alcoholic, the study found.

**64%**

A 2012 study published in the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry found people who feel lonely have a 64 per cent greater risk of dementia.

**14%**

Feeling extreme loneliness can increase an older person's chances of premature death by 14 per cent, according to research from Chicago psychologist John Cacioppo.

**14.4**

A 2010 study from the University of Chicago found that loneliness could cause high blood pressure. The loneliest people in the study saw their systolic blood pressure rise by 14.4 mm more than those who were socially happy over a four-year period.

Daianna Panni, who was born and raised in Vancouver, says the city used to feel much friendlier. It's only in the past two decades that she feels something shifted that made it a difficult place to make new friends. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

**Missed Part 1?**

Go to metronews.ca to learn how the Engaged City Task Force came to be and read a report card on the initiatives it's rolled out so far.

**Sense of community**

## *The aloof history of Vancouver*

Alden Habacon, director of UBC's Intercultural Understanding Strategy Development, grew up in Regina where the sense of community was much stronger.

When his family would move, "the entire church showed up," he said.

Alden Habacon

But when he tells that story to friends in Vancouver, the typical response is: "We don't really do that here. We pay movers."

That bourgeois attitude, said Habacon, is part of the reason behind Vancouver's reputation for being unfriendly, and can be traced back to the city's settlement history.

When Europeans first came to Canada, he said British Columbia was the settlement location of choice for people seeking British colonial ideals.

"If you wanted to live out the fantasy of a classist lifestyle where you could have exclusive neighbourhoods, there was a place for you and that was British Columbia," he said, adding with a laugh: "In fact, they put it in the name."

Habacon said the bourgeois attitude he mentions eventually became internalized to the point that people in B.C. now act aloof without even realizing why.

"We're playing out the fantasy of being high-class," he said. "It's deep and it's historic."

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# Quebec education minister quits over controversies

Former Quebec education minister Yves Bolduc THE CANADIAN PRESS

Embattled Quebec Education Minister Yves Bolduc quit politics on Thursday and will return to practising medicine.

Bolduc told reporters he has also resigned his Quebec City-area seat in the provincial legislature in addition to quitting cabinet.

The abrupt departure comes following a number of controversies surrounding Bolduc, including a recent one over strip-searches at Quebec schools.

Premier Philippe Couillard stood with Bolduc as he made the announcement in Quebec City, following a brief meeting with the Liberal caucus and Couillard himself.

Bolduc has been a source of embarrassment for the governing Liberals in recent days after comments he made about strip-searches at schools.

Last week, Bolduc said strip-searches were permitted in Quebec high schools as long as they were conducted in a manner that was "very respectful" to the student.

The issue surfaced after a 15-year-old girl told the Journal de Quebec she felt violated after being strip-searched because the school suspected her of selling drugs.

A day later, Bolduc backtracked and announced an independent lawyer would look into the allegations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Six Quebecers who left country may have been radicalized, reports say

Reports claiming six young Quebecers left the country in mid-January and may have joined jihadist groups in the Middle East prompted a call from public safety officials urging families to contact authorities if they suspect relatives have been radicalized.

Montreal police and other authorities are offering little information about the reports — which first appeared in Montreal La Presse Thursday — that four men and two women from the Montreal area fled Canada to fight with jihadists in Syria.

Federal Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney would not discuss the case specifically, adding only that the reports highlight the need for the Conservatives' controversial anti-terror legislation to be passed.

A well-placed source confirmed that six young men and women between 18 and 20 years old from the Montreal area all left around mid-January and landed in Turkey, which is a well-known gateway to the battlefield of Syria and Iraq where jihadist groups are involved in a civil war.

Montreal police would only confirm the force is investigating several cases of missing adults. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A woman holds a sign as hundreds of people march through the Downtown Eastside in Vancouver during the 25th annual Women's Memorial March on Feb. 14. The march is held to honour missing and murdered women and girls from the community, with stops along the way to commemorate where women were last seen or found. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Roundtable on missing, murdered women 'a start'

**One-day gathering.** AFN Chief Perry Bellegarde views Friday's talks as the beginning of a national dialogue

Dawn Harvard says the short amount of time devoted to a long list of speakers and a packed agenda at the national roundtable on missing and murdered indigenous women Friday need not be an obstacle.

"It only takes a few seconds to say, 'Yes, we will commit X amount of dollars," said Harvard, interim president of the Native Women's Association of Canada, as she spelled out — with some hopeful humour — her desire for a strong commitment from provincial and federal government representatives at the meeting here.

The consensus on just what to do about the fact that, according to the RCMP, about 1,200 aboriginal women and girls have been murdered or gone missing in Canada in the past three decades may be harder to come by.

And the Legal Strategy Coalition on Violence Against Indigenous Women, a group of organizations including Amnesty International, released a report on Thursday concluding that the federal government has ignored most of the more than 700 recommendations contained in 58 reports on violence against aboriginal women and girls, raising the question of whether any agreements made at the roundtable will come to life.

Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde views the one-day gathering — to focus on prevention and awareness, community safety, policing and the justice system — as the beginning of a national dialogue.

"We never deprive people of hope. It's a beginning. It's a start," Bellegarde said Thursday, adding there has already been talk of a followup meeting to make sure whatever comes out of the roundtable is implemented.

The Conservative government, which has long resisted the idea of holding a national inquiry into the issue, is likely to focus on the $25-million action plan it promoted last fall.

Status of Women Minister Kellie Leitch and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Bernard Valcourt are representing the federal government at the roundtable.

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, who is calling for a pan-Canadian prevention and awareness campaign and a better way to share police statistics, said Ottawa's action plan would not be enough.

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In this image made Thursday from video posted on a social media account affiliated with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, a militant topples an ancient artifact in the Ninevah Museum in Mosul, Iraq. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# ISIL seizes more Christians, smashes ancient artifacts

**Iraq and Syria.** More than 220 abducted, according to activists

ISIL militants seized more Christians from their homes in northeastern Syria in the past three days, bringing the total number abducted by the extremist group to more than 220, activists said Thursday.

At the same time, the extremists also released a video showing the continued destruction of the heritage of the lands under their control. It depicted men using sledgehammers to smash ancient Mesopotamian statues and other artifacts in Iraq's northern city of Mosul.

The video, coinciding with mounting fears over the fate of the captive Christian Assyrians in Syria, sent a fresh wave of dread across the region, particularly among minorities who feel targeted by the group.

"Daesh is wiping Assyrian heritage in Mosul, and at the same time wiping them geographically from the face of the Earth," said Osama Edward, director of the Assyrian Network for Human Rights in Syria. He referred to ISIL by its Arabic acronym.

About 200 Assyrians and other Christians gathered in a church east of Beirut in solidarity with the victims in Syria and Iraq. Some cried openly.

One man held a banner that read: "We will not surrender, we will not be broken." A few young men said they were preparing to go to Syria to fight and help their brethren defend their homes against ISIL.

The destruction of artifacts in the Mosul museum is part of a campaign by ISIL extremists who have destroyed a number of shrines — including Muslim holy sites — to eliminate what they view as heresy. They also are believed to have sold ancient artifacts on the black market in order to finance their bloody campaign in the region.

In the video released Thursday, militants used sledgehammers and drills to smash and destroy several large statues, which are then shown chipped and in pieces. The five-minute video also shows a black-clad man at an archaeological site in Mosul, drilling through and destroying a winged bull — an Assyrian protective deity — that dates to the seventh century BC.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Argentina. Judge dismisses allegations against president

A federal judge on Thursday firmly dismissed allegations that Argentine President Cristina Fernandez tried to coverup the involvement of Iranian officials in the 1994 bombing of a Jewish centre, easing a crisis for her government fed by the death of the prosecutor who brought the case.

Judge Daniel Rafecas said the documents originally filed by the late prosecutor Alberto Nisman failed to meet "the minimal conditions needed to launch a formal court investigation."

"There is not a single element of evidence, even circumstantial, that points to the actual head of state," the judge said.

Nisman had filed the complaint just days before he died on Jan. 18 under mysterious circumstances. Polls show many Argentines suspect officials had some hand in the death, though Fernandez and aides have suggested the death was actually aimed at destabilizing her government.

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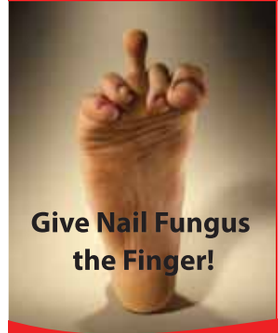


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VOICES

# THIS IS WHY WE CAN'T DO NICE THINGS

**THE KOHLER REPORT**
By Rebecca Kohler

My mother used to say, "This is why we can't have nice things" after I'd done something stupid like putting a wet cup on an antique table — leaving a ring, wrecking the table. I was reminded of this phrase the day after the Oscars as social media — especially Slate and Vox — pulsated with scorn for Patricia Arquette. She had given us something nice and we put wet cups all over it.

On Sunday, after winning the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in Boyhood, Arquette ended her acceptance speech by demanding equal pay and equal rights for women in the United States. The crowd cheered and Meryl Streep and Jennifer Lopez had a simultaneous orgasm. It was a great moment and then Patricia Arquette went backstage.

In the press room, Arquette was asked to elaborate on her statement and here's where things got sticky: "It's time for all the women in America and all the men who love women and all the gay people and all the people of colour that we've fought for, to fight for us now."

**Let no good deed go unpunished**

## Patricia Arquette tried to do a nice thing, but apparently, we can't have nice things today.

Ugh.

So, a lot of people took this to mean that Arquette thinks LGBTQ and people of colour have full equality themselves and that they now need to step up and help women. While the phrase may have been poorly worded — I'm surprised people can speak at all seconds after winning an Oscar — I think what Arquette meant was that we're all in this together. I don't believe she was trying to be exclusionary by mentioning those groups. I think if we put her and her speech into a benefit-of-the-doubt context, she was trying to be inclusive.

Patricia Arquette tried to do a nice thing, but apparently, we can't have nice things today.

Remember the Ice Bucket Challenge? The awareness campaign for the disease ALS raised over $16 million dollars in Canada (over $130 million worldwide). It was a nice thing. But during the height of this cold, wet, philanthropic trend, I saw post after post on Facebook about how it was "a waste of water" or "just an opportunity for dumb girls to show off their bikini bodies." An article in Macleans said something to the tune of "there are more important diseases" (is this some kind of really unpleasant competition?) and a dim friend of mine protested that half the people doing it weren't even donating. OK, but what about the ones that WERE?

In the art of improv (as in improvisation), when you're working with other people, there's a rule called "Yes, and." The idea is that you take what your partner gives you and build upon it: "Let's adopt a dragon!" "Yes! AND use its breath as a BBQ."

You use each other's contributions as building blocks to construct a scene. It's an improv sin to say "no" because "no" stops the scene in its tracks; if everyone said no, there would be no scene.

It seems to me that we are a society of "no." Patricia Arquette says she wants equality for women. "No, because she said it the wrong way." I want to raise money for ALS. "No, because it's wasteful. Now excuse me while I flush the toilet after my tiny pee."

Patricia Arquette is not the enemy. In this case the enemy is patriarchy and bigwigs on Wall Street and that's a whole other can of worms. But we're making it a lot easier for the enemy to continue to get its way by distracting ourselves with the imperfections of our own teammates.

If you see something good that you think could be better, why not say "Yes, and!" and build upon it?

*Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca_kohler*

# Happy face/Sad face

From imbibing bears to pernicious pundits, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:

**CHEATERS WIN**

Recognizing that legalizing something is not the same as endorsing it, South Korea has stopped criminalizing adultery. No longer will children play boisterous games of "cops and cheaters," and John Updike books will now be moved out of the Crime Thriller section of South Korean bookstores.

**DON'T PLY THE BEARS**

Two bears that were being kept in a small, filthy cage outside a restaurant in Sochi, Russia, have been confiscated and are being treated for alcoholism. The animals got hooked on booze because visitors kept giving them beer. A sanctuary in Romania has offered to take them in.

**PEAK RECORD**

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**THE OH-REILLY FACTOR**

Bill O'Reilly, the Fox News pundit we all love to hate, is the latest journalist facing heat for inflating (or straight-up lying?) about experiences in his early reporting days in South America. O'Reilly claimed — among other things — to have seen nuns being executed in El Salvador. But skeptics point out his timeline doesn't make sense.

**FLOYD + VIOLET FOREVER**

The hottest hot of the week shoutout goes to the late Floyd and Violet Hartwig of Fresno, Calif., who died holding hands. The two met at a dance hall while he was on leave from the Navy. During their 67-year marriage, people often commented on their deep connection. When the family sensed they were ready to leave this world, they pushed their beds together. Floyd went first and Violet followed him five hours later. Rest in peace, Mr. and Mrs. Hartwig.

metro

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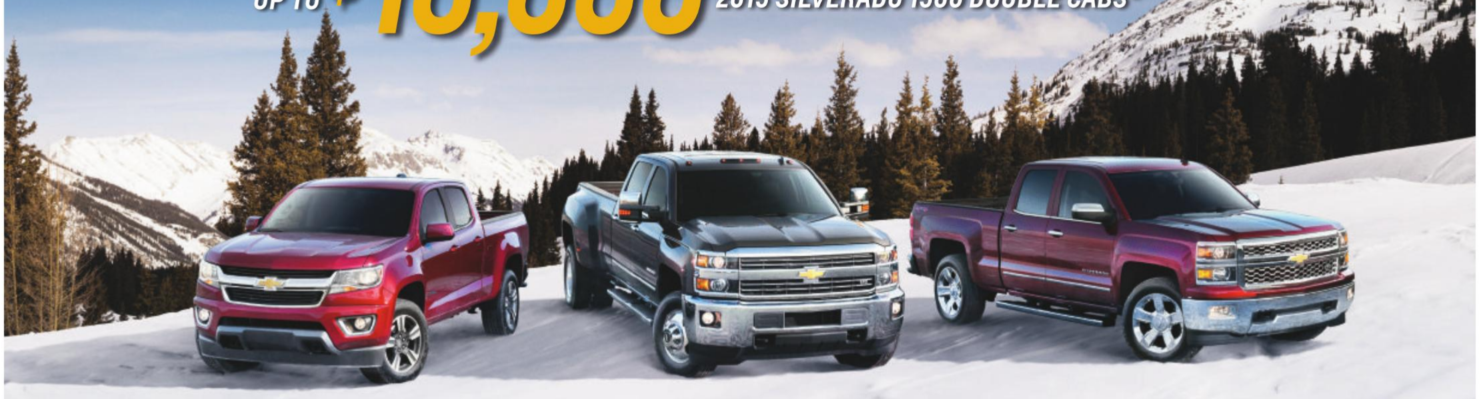

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SM Study based on responses from 86,118 new-vehicle owners, measuring 239 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2014. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ‡‡Based on Vincentric 2014 Model Level Analysis of full-size pickups in the Canadian retail market. ¥Lease based on a purchase price of $29,902 (including $1,000 lease credit, $4,500 manufacturer to dealer delivery credit, a $1000 manufacturer to dealer Option Package Discount Credit and a $893 Owner Cash) for a Silverado Double Cab 4X4 1WT. Bi-weekly payment is $149 for 36 months at 0.0% APR, and includes Freight and Air Tax, on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Annual kilometer limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometer. $1,125 down payment is required. Payment may vary depending on down payment trade. Total obligation is $12,746, plus applicable taxes. 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# A backstage peek at the CSAs

**Awards show.** Metro's movie man Richard Crouse shares his most memorable moments covering Canada's biggest awards show

Fresh from her Oscar win, Julianne Moore is set to attend the Canadian Screen Awards this weekend. Moore, who is nominated for her role in David Cronenberg's Maps To The Stars, will be among the presenters during the show, televised on CBC Sunday. CONTRIBUTED

In Focus

**RICHARD CROUSE**

Everybody knows what happens on stage at a big show like this Sunday's Canadian Screen Awards.

A host sings, dances and/or tells jokes, glamorous presenters tear open envelopes and announce award winners who thank everyone from managers to spouses to Jesus. There's the slapping of backs, bespoke tuxedos and flowing gowns and tears.

Add in some drama, a red carpet and you have the ingredients of a big awards show, but what happens backstage?

Lots, as it turns out.

Every year at the Canadian Screen Awards there's a whole other show that happens offstage in the pressroom. Located deep in the bowels of the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, it is my domain during the live broadcast.

I host the room, interviewing the winners as they come off stage in front of an "audience" made up of local and national reporters, there for the free food and access to the celebs.

I am the purveyor of sound bites, the compère to the press who take the interviews I do and turn them into stories for the next day's papers and newscasts.

Over the years Elvis Costello, Tatiana Maslany, William Shatner and many others have passed through, tossing out bon mots like they were candy. Jay Baruchel let it slip he was engaged to Alison Pill on our small stage. Viggo Mortensen proudly waved the Montreal Canadiens flag in the face of a roomful of Leafs fans and Jill Hennessey gushed about the Canadian Screen Awards gift bag, thanking the Academy for the Norman Jewison Maple Syrup.

It's an easy gig for me. Everyone who comes down from the main stage is a winner, automatically in a good mood and ready to have some fun.

When Lifetime Achievement Award winner David Cronenberg was asked where the inspiration for his movies came from he took a moment to examine the assembled crowd of journalists before deadpanning, "Just standing here is giving me all kinds of ideas for horror films."

Call Me Fitz star Tracy Dawson picked up a CSA for best actress but later told me that awards don't guarantee work.

She won a Gemini in 2011 for playing Meghan Fitzpatrick on the show and thought she had it made. Then her phone didn't ring for ten months.

In the pressroom she joked that she wanted to be clear — she was looking for work. "I'm totally available," she laughed.

It's a different show downstairs, less glitzy and more relaxed.

This year Andrea Martin is taking over hosting duties from fellow-SCTVer Martin Short but I'll never forget last year how Short tore up the pressroom, still jacked up from hosting the show.

He was hilarious when I asked if he'd try and top his spectacular flying entrance next year. "I can only fly so many times," he said.

"That harness chafes."

**Richard's ratings**

**Focus**

**The Lazarus Effect**

**Elephant Song**

**Big News From Grand Rock**

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# Orphan Black early Screen Award darling

**CSAs.** Sci-fi series takes home eight awards in pre-show presentation, while another big nominee, police drama 19-2, goes away empty-handed

The sci-fi clone saga Orphan Black heads into this weekend's Canadian Screen Awards with a leading eight wins under its belt.

The Space TV series collected the trophies at an early awards ceremony Wednesday, which handed out hardware in most of the television categories.

MuchMusic and MTV's Degrassi also scored big with four wins, while CBC-TV's The Rick Mercer Report and HBO Canada's Sensitive Skin each collected three.

Orphan Black entered the race with a leading 13 nominations, tied with the Xavier Dolan film Mommy.

Dolan and his fellow film nominees won't learn their fates until Sunday, when a non-televised ceremony will hand out most of the film awards.

A star-studded televised bash on Sunday night, hosted by comedy star Andrea Martin, will feature the marquee TV and film awards.

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HOSTS
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Robert Pattinson is nominated for best supporting actor for his role in David Cronenberg's Maps to the Stars. CONTRIBUTED

**Alternative categories**

Ken Taylor, Canada's former ambassador to Iran, in Our Man in Tehran, which won best doc at an early CSAs presentation. CONTRIBUTED

## Real life gets rewarded

So far, The Amazing Race Canada is having an amazing run at the Canadian Screen Awards.

The second season of the popular CTV reality series claimed three trophies at an early awards show Tuesday, which recognized the best in documentary, reality, lifestyle, news, sports and digital media categories. It included wins for best direction, picture editing and writing. The best reality show trophy will be handed out Sunday. The documentary prizes were split between TMN/Movie Central's Our Man in Tehran, which took five awards including best doc and direction, and History Channel's Tales from the Organ Trade, which claimed four, including best writing and the Donald Britton Award for best social/political doc. Winners in the news categories included Global National for best national newscast, CBC's The Fifth Estate for best news or information program, CTV's W5 journalist Tom Kennedy for best host or interviewer in a news or information program or series, and CTV News journalist Janis Mackey Frayer for best national reportage. The prize for best live sports event went to CBC's coverage of the Olympic women's gold medal hockey game.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Orphan Black star Tatiana Maslany is looking to repeat her win for best actress at the CSAs this Sunday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The show is set to air on CBC-TV.

Early wins for Orphan Black included best casting, directing and writing as well as a supporting actor trophy for Jordan Gavaris for his turn as the flamboyant Felix.

Gavaris won the same category last year.

Series star Tatiana Maslany — who has wowed critics for deftly tackling a slew of disparate cloned characters — will seek a repeat win for best actress on Sunday's televised ceremony, while the show competes for best dramatic series against Bravo's 19-2, Showcase's Continuum, CTV's Motive, and Global's Remedy.

Meanwhile, critically acclaimed cop drama 19-2 came up empty-handed Wednesday, despite entering the race with 10 nominations overall.

It's up for two final trophies Sunday, including best drama and best actor for Jared Keeso.

Xavier Dolan's film Mommy entered the CSA race with a leading 13 nominations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

East Coast comic Jonathan Torrens claimed the sole win Wednesday for CBC-TV's sitcom Mr. D, which also had 10 nominations overall.

Torrens earned the trophy for his featured supporting role as kooky vice-principal Cheeley.

The school-set sitcom will seek the best comedy title Sunday against TMN/Movie Central's Call Me Fitz, City's Seed, CTV's Spun Out, and Super Channel's Tiny Plastic Men.

Star Gerry Dee is also still up for best comic lead actor, against Adam Korson of City's Seed, Don McKellar of Sensitive Skin, Dave Foley of CTV's Spun Out, and Mark Meer of Super Channel's Tiny Plastic Men.

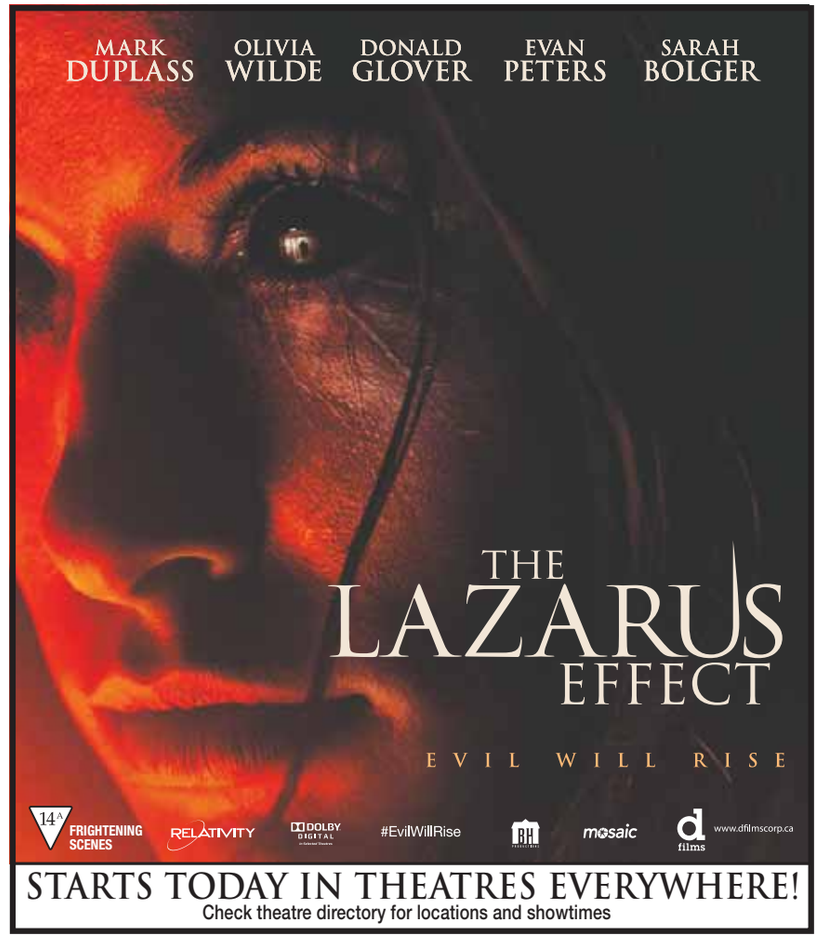
Sunday promises to include some Hollywood star wattage with recent Oscar-winner Julianne Moore, who is set to present an award.

She's also competing in the best actress category for her turn as an aging starlet in David Cronenberg's Maps to the Stars. She's up against Ahn Ji Hye and Yoon Da Kyung, both for In Her Place, Julianne Cote for Tu dors Nicole, and Anne Dorval for Mommy.

Meanwhile, the best actor competition pits Ryan Reynolds from The Captive against Bruce Greenwood for Elephant Song, Michael Murphy for Fall, Evan Bird for Maps To The Stars and Antoine Olivier Pilon for Mommy. The supporting actor category includes John Cusack and Robert Pattinson, each for Maps To The Stars, as well as Justin Chatwin for Bang Bang Baby, Marc-Andre Grondin for Tu dors Nicole and Kris Demeanor for The Valley Below. The supporting actress race includes Sandrine Bisson for 1987, Kil Hae Yeon for In Her Place, Mia Wasikowska for Maps To The Stars, Suzanne Clement for Mommy and Catherine St-Laurent for Tu dors Nicole.

Cronenberg's dark comedy boasts 11 nominations but faces stiff competition from Mommy, which recently beat Richard Linklater's Boyhood and Wes Anderson's The Grand Budapest Hotel to be crowned best foreign film at France's Cesar Awards.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



# Now in theatres

Ratings and synopses courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes. For more movie reviews, trailers and news go to RottenTomatoes.com.

**Ratings:** *Certified Fresh:* *Fresh:* *Rotten:* *Audience response:* *Audience anticipation for the film:* +

**Comedy/International**

## After The Ball

**Director.** Sean Garrity

**Stars.** Portia Doubleday, Chris Noth

Kate's dream is to design for couturier houses. Although she is a bright new talent, Kate can't get a job. No one trusts the daughter of Lee Kassell, a retail guru who markets clothes "inspired" by the very designers Kate wants to work for. Reluctantly, Kate joins the family business where she must navigate around her duplicitous stepmother and two wicked stepsisters.

**Rotten Tomatoes™ score**
**Critics:** No reviews yet **Audience:** + 61%

**Drama/Comedy**

## Focus

**Director.** John Requa, Glenn Ficarra

**Stars.** Will Smith, Rodrigo Santoro

A con artist (Will Smith) takes on an inexperienced apprentice in this crime comedy from the filmmaking duo behind Crazy Stupid Love: Glenn Ficarra and John Requa.

**Rotten Tomatoes™ score**
**Critics:** No reviews yet **Audience:** + 95%

**Horror**

## The Lazarus Effect

**Director.** David Gelb

**Stars.** Olivia Wilde, Mark Duplass

The Lazarus Effect follows a group of researchers led by Frank (Mark Duplass) and his fiancée Zoe (Olivia Wilde), who've achieved the unimaginable — bringing the dead back to life. After a successful, yet unsanctioned, trial on a newly deceased animal, the team is ready to unveil their breakthrough to the world.

**Rotten Tomatoes™ score**
**Critics:** No reviews yet **Audience:** 64%

**Comedy**

## Hot Tub Time Machine 2

**Director.** Steve Pink

**Stars.** Craig Robinson, Rob Corddry

Hot Tub Time Machine director Steve Pink returns to the helm for this sequel set 10 years in the future, and starring Rob Corddry, Adam Scott, Clark Duke, and Craig Robinson.

**Rotten Tomatoes™ score**
**Critics:** 15% **Audience:** 41%

**Documentary**

## The Wrecking Crew

**Director.** Denny Tedesco

**Stars.** Herb Alpert, Brian Wilson

What the Funk Brothers did for Motown, The Wrecking Crew did, only bigger, for the West Coast Sound. Six years in a row in the 1960s and early 1970s, the Grammy for Record of the Year went to Wrecking Crew recordings. And now, The Wrecking Crew tells the story in pictures and that oh-so-glorious sound.

**Rotten Tomatoes™ score**
**Critics:** No reviews yet **Audience:** + 81%

**Drama**

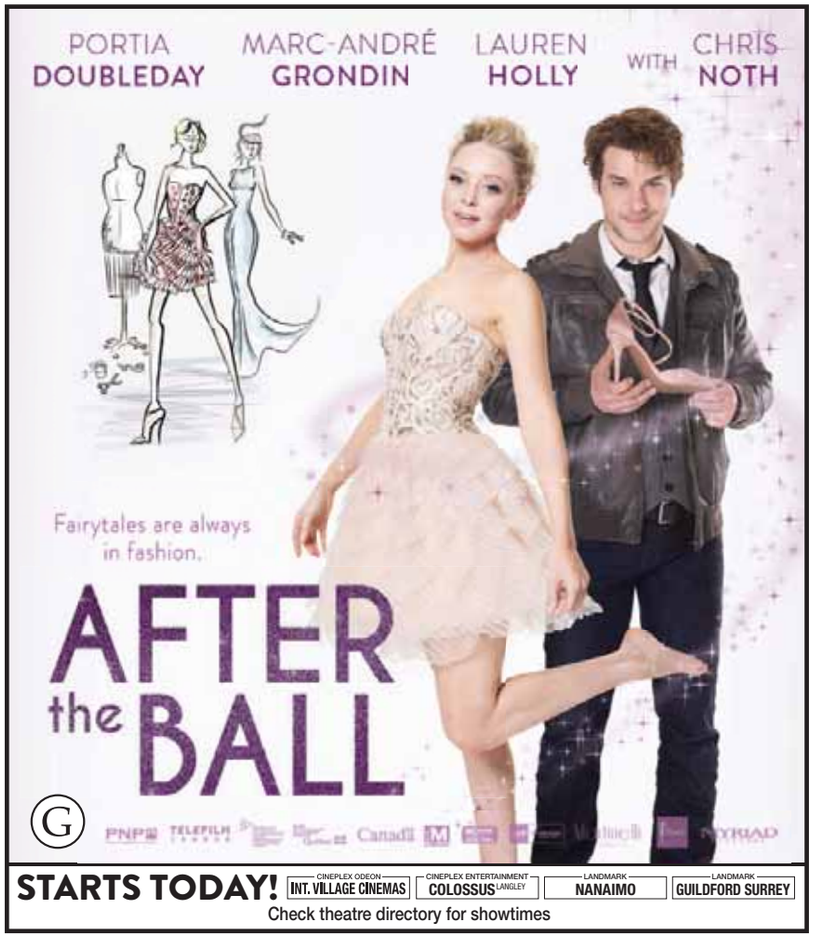
## McFarland

**Director.** Niki Caro

**Stars.** Kevin Costner, Carlos Pratt

From Disney comes McFarland, the true against-all-odds story of the 1987 McFarland high school cross-country team in an economically challenged community.

**Rotten Tomatoes™ score**
**Critics:** 78% **Audience:** 91%

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# Olivia Wilde takes a stab at low-budget horror

**Casting.** Actress has done medical dramas and science fiction, but in The Lazarus Effect she kicks it up a notch by trying to bring back the dead

MATT PRIGGE
Metro in New York City

Olivia Wilde has played computer programs (Tron: Legacy) and an alien (in a movie for which this would be a spoiler), but in real life she's personable, talkative and friendly. She gets to play both sides of the fence in The Lazarus Effect, a low-budget horror in which she's a brilliant scientist experimenting with a serum that can bring the dead back to life — one that winds up being used on her when she's accidentally killed, with horrific consequences.

**You've said you're very analytical when it comes to scripts. How did that apply to this project?**
I tend to get really analytical with the material. My nickname on a few films has been The Logic Police. Even with this film, where logic seemingly should not count, I still held everyone to the rules we established. That's how I view films. When I watch something, I will buy anything. Any kind of story you want to give me I'm happy to watch — as long as it's consistent with the rules you lay out.

**A lot of horror films about scientists tend to be anti-science, but this walks a fine line of being respectful of scientists and wary of some of the deeply flawed and all-too-human actions some characters take.**
We didn't want it to seem horribly irresponsible of them. It clearly comes from a passionate place. If you think about how much has been developed in 50 years, it's insane. Triple bypass surgeries happen on a daily basis today; we're used to hearing about people surviving. If you went back and told your great-grandparents that, they'd think you were insane. The idea of a Lazarus serum is not completely off-base. We imagined it would be used to keep someone alive or bring them back to life as they flatline during a surgery, let's say — that you just need them to stay alive so you can finish the procedure. That's how we made sense to it. That probably is in the works, because there are things that have been developed to keep a heart pumping during surgery. There's all sorts of technology to keep our bodies moving when they're being taken apart. Having that logical basis to start from was important to me.

**Does that come from playing a doctor on House for five years?**
Yeah. I really love learning about medical technology, and I have such an enormous respect for doctors. They're superheroes. I wanted to make sure we didn't portray them as horribly irresponsible. I wanted to show they were coming from a good place and that it went horribly wrong. Science is not the enemy. It's human beings who mess up. It's hubris, as always, that leads us to disaster.

**This is a horror film that's not stocked with typically horror film actors. You have Mark Duplass, who does indies, Donald Glover, who's synonymous with comedy, and yourself.**
People mostly enjoy watching actors who are not known for horror because maybe they relate to them in a way that puts them in the scary situation the characters are in. It adds to the unpredictability of what horror can do. It's about misdirection.

Olivia Wilde appears in a scene from The Lazarus Effect.
DANIEL MCFADDEN/RELATIVITY MEDIA

**On motherhood and acting**

**How much has becoming a mother changed your acting?**

- "You can't tell when you watch the movie, but there were three shoots we did where I am 8 1/2 months pregnant. I didn't expect to be working at that stage of pregnancy. But in fact, it was kind of awesome, because my emotions were so close to the surface. I felt capable of anything, any human emotion, from misery to rage to extreme happiness. It's an amazing thing that happens with pregnancy and with motherhood. Since having my son, I feel I'm a better actress. But yeah, I was doing some shots with this huge belly. You'll notice me sometimes saying my lines over my shoulder in a weird way. (Laughs) That would be why."

# Show unexpectedly predicts and depicts Russia-U.S. tensions

For Season 3 of House of Cards, expect the dastardly and newly empowered Frank Underwood to square off against his coldest and most formidable foe yet: Russia.

The geopolitical plotline involving Kevin Spacey's freshly sworn-in president and the distinctly Putin-esque Russian leader Viktor Petrov (Lars Mikkelsen) may feel Xeroxed from the morning paper, but Cards creator Beau Willimon swears the show conceived the conflict first. "Our concern in the writers' room was that it might be too far afield from reality, because at the time we were conceiving it, nothing was really going on with Russia aside from the Sochi Olympics," Willimon said this week in a telephone interview.

"As we were writing and filming, Crimea erupted, sanctions were introduced, and all of that happened after we had developed our story.

"So it can seem we were ripping from the headlines or trying to somehow parallel what was going on in current events, but in truth, I guess current events caught up with us."

With the third season of House of Cards set to hit Netflix on Friday, the Oscar and Emmy nominee was keeping his, ahem, cards close to his chest. But Willimon was willing to share a few details of the upcoming season.

**What does Frank's presidency mean for (his wife) Claire?**

Willimon: Claire has always been extremely ambitious — the climb to the top hasn't been Frank's alone, it's been this couple. The marriage between Frank and Claire has always been central to House of Cards. I would say it's the core of the story.

That's something we'll be investigating. We've known from the beginning that Claire had a great deal of ambition, now they both find themselves in the White House. What are the outlets for that ambition?

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Claire, played by Robin Wright, will see new outlets for her ambition now that she's in the White House. DAVID GIESBRECHT FOR NETFLIX

Ambitious characters played by Molly Parker and Mahershala Ali find love in the dark, twisty world of House of Cards. DAVID GIESBRECHT /FOR NETFLIX

# Chemistry is in the Cards for characters

**TV.** Actors Mahershala Ali and Molly Parker talk Remy and Jackie's understated love story

LISA WEIDENFELD
Metro in New York

House of Cards, Netflix's Macbeth-esque look at the extremes to which Frank Underwood and his wife Claire go to achieve and maintain power, is not known for love stories. But that's just what Mahershala Ali's lobbyist Remy Danton and Molly Parker's congresswoman Jackie Sharp find themselves in. We talked to them about why their characters are willing to take risks for love in a power-mad world.

## On connection

**Mahershala Ali:** Remy has a lot of respect for Jackie. Sometimes you just can't explain chemistry, either. I think they hit it off in a way that kind of goes a little bit beyond words. He's just drawn to her. She's an attractive woman who wields a certain degree of power. I think the circles that Remy finds himself in, I think it's been difficult for him to find a partner. Someone who he can really have a conversation with on that level who he finds attractive, who challenges him.

**Molly Parker:** I mean, I think that Jackie and Remy have a very pure, hot, physical connection. ... Here's this man who is very much like her in many ways. He has a lot of the same qualities in terms of his intelligence and his ambitions and his willingness to sacrifice his life for power and money, and yet they have this incredibly deep pull towards one another for which they would have to risk all of these other things that they've worked for in order to be together, because those are the stakes.

## On working together

**Ali:** I really just love working with Molly. And any way that I can get that, I'm really appreciative. I think (writer) Beau Willimon does a wonderful job as far as challenging us as actors and when we sit down and we're kind of co-creating and collaborating,

Molly and I get to really comb through it and try to get to the essence of the relationship and kind of dig into whatever scene it is that we're working on that day. Like what it means, what it's really about, what's beneath it, what's not really being said.

**Parker:** They're great scenes. Mahershala Ali is one of the most loving human beings I've ever met, truly, and we have such a great time with that relationship, just as actors, just sort of exploring all of the hidden dynamics of that relationship. It's really fun. He's so lovely.

## On what they'll sacrifice to stay together

**Ali:** I think any time you love someone, you're willing to put yourself out there and take risks for that person. And I think we'll learn more about that this season, but Jackie just holds a special place in his heart. So I definitely think he would put himself out there for her yet again.

**Parker:** She's had this taste of this power of being in the leadership. At the beginning of the season, we find her in a place where she needs to find a way back to the seat of power and the way in which she does that has tremendous consequences for her personal life.

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# Playing a dangerous game in Elephant Song

**Thriller.** As offers come pouring in, seasoned actor recalls soon-to-open film he shot two years prior

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

Bruce Greenwood is a busy actor who has spent much of the last year on set, away from his Los Angeles home.

"Yesterday I found myself reading a script," he says of a rare day off. "I was lying on the coach and I put the script down and fell asleep in the sun. I woke up an hour later and said to my wife, 'We're home. I'm lying on the coach. I could get up and make tea but I don't have to. My bag is not packed.'"

When he isn't on set the actor, best known as Christopher Pike in the rebooted Star Trek series, occupies himself in the kitchen.

"I'm baking bread," he says. "It's my new thing. I'm making at least a couple of baguettes a day. Usually I make three in a batch, give two to the neighbours and force the other one on my wife."

In the new psychological thriller Elephant Song — just one of four movies he has in the pipeline — Greenwood as hospital chief of staff Dr. Toby Green is lured into a cat-and-mouse game with Michael, a long-time patient played by Xavier Dolan, who may know the whereabouts of a missing doctor.

**Authentic encounter**

**He decided that when the two characters meet in the film for the first time it might be interesting that, as actors, we were meeting for the first time while the cameras were rolling.**

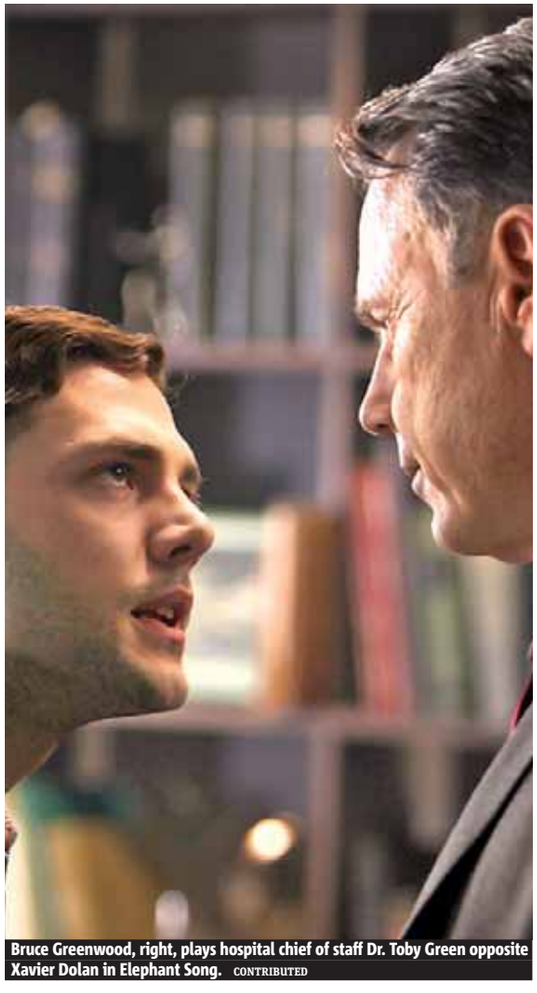
Bruce Greenwood

Greenwood hadn't met his co-star and Dolan wanted to keep it that way — at least until they shot their first scene.

"He had a great idea early on, which serves to illustrate how willing he is to experiment," says Greenwood. "He decided that when the two characters meet in the film for the first time it might be interesting that, as actors, we were meeting for the first time while the cameras were rolling. I kind of thought, 'Well, that's a bit of extra lifting I don't think is really necessary.' But he really wanted to try it so I said, 'OK.' When he walked into the room all this stuff started pouring through my system that I couldn't have anticipated. It turned out to be a great idea."

Greenwood has been so busy, he had to rely on journalists to refresh his memory about Elephant Song, a movie he shot almost two years ago.

"It is one of those things where if you are doing 10 interviews in a row, the first two interviewers get the short end of the stick because during the interviews you're reminded of what the film was about. By the third interview, 20 minutes in, you remember what it was about the film that excited you and interested you and challenged you. Today after the first couple of interviews I hung up the phone and thought, 'God, those poor people must think I'm an idiot.'"



Bruce Greenwood, right, plays hospital chief of staff Dr. Toby Green opposite Xavier Dolan in Elephant Song. CONTRIBUTED

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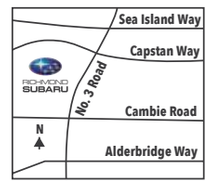


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Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

# Beat the winter blahs with fresh citrus twist

**Entertaining.** This Lemon and Basil Scallops dish comes together quickly but will impress dinner guests

**RICARDO COOKS**
Chef Ricardo
Ricardo Magazine

For a dose of freshness choose recipes that combine savoury seafood and the tang of citrus, like this one, which comes together in less than an hour.

**This recipe serves four.** COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

**Ingredients**

**Lemon Cream**
- 1 cup (250 ml) 35% cooking cream
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) chicken broth
- Grated zest of 1 lemon
- 1 tsp (5 ml) lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

**Basil Oil**
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) olive oil
- 1/4 cup (11 g) chopped fresh basil
- 1/2 tsp (2 1/2 ml) lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

**Vegetable Julienne**
- 1/3 cup (76 g) butter
- 6 carrots, peeled and cut into julienne
- 1 leek, cut into julienne

**Scallops**
- 20 large scallops
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- Salt and pepper

**Lemon Cream**

**1.** In a saucepan, combine all the ingredients. Cook over medium heat for about 15 minutes to reduce by half. Season with salt and pepper. Keep warm.

**Basil Oil**

**1.** Combine all the ingredients in a small food processor or with a whisk. Set aside.

**Vegetable Julienne**

**1.** In a skillet, over medium heat, melt 3 tbsp of butter. Add the vegetables and cook for about 6 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Keep warm.

**Scallops**

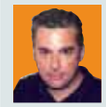
**1.** With the rack in the middle position, preheat the oven to 375 F (190 C).

**2.** In skillet over high heat, add 1 tbsp of the butter and 1 tbsp of the oil. Sear half the scallops for about 1 minute on each side. Season with salt and pepper. Set aside on a baking sheet. Repeat with the remaining scallops, butter, and oil. Place the baking sheet in the oven and cook for about 2 minutes.

**3.** Arrange vegetables in the centre of the plates and the scallops around them. Drizzle with lemon cream and run a thread of basil oil around the edge of plate. **FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED IN 2014.**

**Liquid Assets**

## New Zealand's bold flavours



**LIQUID ASSETS**
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Wine is more than just a drink. It's an experience.

While where you are and who you're with can certainly affect your liquid enjoyment, for me nothing beats combining wine with food.

When I travel, I always look for the opportunity to eat my way into the mind of the winemaker.

You'd think that plan works best in old school wine-producing countries like those in Europe.

Not so. When I was in New Zealand last year, I was impressed by how wineries looked to their regional kitchens for inspiration, and this week's recipe from Chef Ricardo for lime and basil scallops sounds like a page out of the Kiwi cookbook.

In New Zealand, seafood is king and scallops are a national delicacy.

The citrus and herbal elements of Ricardo's dish match perfectly with a wine like Cloudy Bay's 2013 Sauvignon Blanc ($31.95 - $36.99), a white with rich, bold flavours that's earned the winery the reputation as one of New Zealand's best producers. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

# Enhance simple salmon

**1.** In a skillet over high heat, lightly brown the mushrooms in the butter. Season with salt and pepper. Add the sun-dried tomatoes and cook for 1 minute. Add the broth. Bring to a boil and simmer over low heat for 3 minutes.

**Ingredients**

- 1/2 lb (225 g) each oyster mushrooms, sliced; shiitake mushrooms, stems discarded and caps sliced; brown or white mushrooms, quartered
- 3 tbsp (42 g) butter
- 1 /4 cup (60 ml) oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes, drained and chopped
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) chicken broth
- 1 tbsp cornstarch
- 1 tbsp water
- 1 1/2 lb (675 g) skinless salmon fillet, cut into 4 pieces
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- Zest of 1 orange
- Salt and pepper

**2.** In a small bowl, mix together cornstarch and water. Stir into the mushroom mixture and simmer until it thickens, about 1 minute.

**3.** In a skillet over medium heat, brown the salmon in the oil for about 4 minutes on each side. Season with salt and pepper and sprinkle with the orange zest.

**This Roasted Salmon with Mushrooms and Orange recipe makes four servings.** COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

**4.** Serve the salmon on a bed of herbed rice with pine nuts and garnish with the mushroom sauce. **RICARDO**

NHL

## Leafs get Horton from Columbus for Clarkson

The Maple Leafs have traded winger David Clarkson to the Columbus Blue Jackets for injured forward Nathan Horton.

Clarkson's $36.75-million US, seven-year contract had five seasons left.

Horton also has five years left on a $37-million, seven-year deal, but could be on long-term injured reserve, saving the Leafs some salary-cap space.

Clarkson was a healthy scratch for two straight games earlier this month for Toronto and has 10 goals and five assists in 58 games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

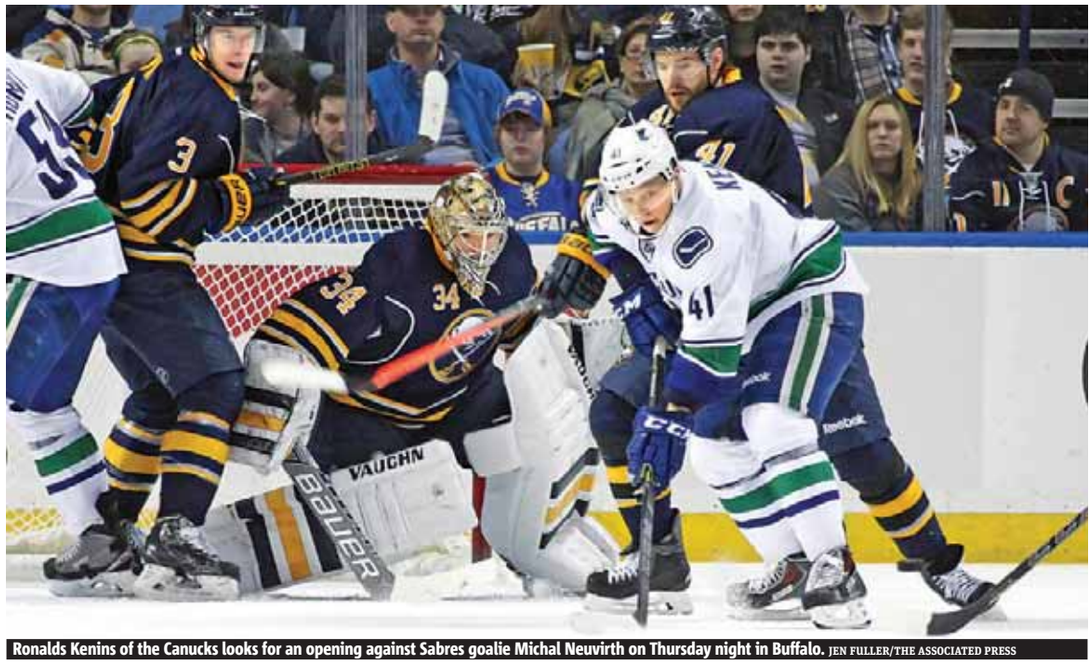
## Panthers acquire Jagr from Devils

The Florida Panthers acquired Jaromir Jagr from the New Jersey Devils on Thursday for a second-round pick in June and either Florida or Minnesota's third-round pick in 2016.

Jagr had 11 goals and 18 assists in 57 games this season for New Jersey. His playing time has been cut recently and he has gone eight games without a point.

Jagr is sixth in NHL history with 716 goals, seventh with 1,068 assists and fifth with 1,784 points in 1,530 career regular-season games in 22 years. The Czech star also has 78 goals and 121 assists in 202 playoff games. He helped Pittsburgh win Stanley Cup titles in his first two seasons in the NHL in 1990-91 and 1991-92.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Ronalds Kenins of the Canucks looks for an opening against Sabres goalie Michal Neuvirth on Thursday night in Buffalo. JEN FULLER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Canucks stunned by short-handed Sabres

**NHL.** Vancouver caps 3-2 road trip with a disappointing setback

On Thursday

| Sabres | Canucks |
|---|---|
| 6 | 3 |

With their top two scorers missing, Chris Stewart and the Buffalo Sabres scored their most goals in three months.

"We came at them in waves," Stewart said. "It was probably one of the few games this year that we've had four lines rolling top to bottom."

Stewart had a goal and an assist, and Torrey Mitchell scored a pair of goals as the Buffalo Sabres defeated the Vancouver Canucks 6-3 on Thursday night.

Buffalo was without Tyler Ennis and Zemgus Girgensons, who were both injured in Tuesday's win over Nashville.

It was Mitchell's first goal since Nov. 22, and his first multi-goal night since March 23, 2011.

Andrej Meszaros, Brian Flynn and Brian Gionta also scored for the last-place Sabres, who have victories in consecutive games for just the fourth time this season.

Vancouver got goals from Shawn Matthias, Daniel Sedin and Jannik Hansen as it finished a five-game road trip with a 3-2 record.

For the Canucks, surrendering six goals to the league's worst offence is a big concern. Starting goaltender Ryan Miller is out four to six weeks, and Eddie Lack allowed five goals on 23 shots before Gionta's empty-netter.

"I didn't play well enough and no one really played well enough," Lack said.

Canucks coach Willie Desjardins said the loss dampens an otherwise successful road trip.

"You have to find a way to win that game," he said. "We're excited about the games we won, but that doesn't do anything for us tonight. Tonight was the only one that counted."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## Cavs turn Warriors away

LeBron James defends the Cavaliers' basket against Golden State Warriors forward David Lee on Thursday night at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland. James filled the stat sheet in a vintage performance putting up 42 points, 11 rebounds, five assists and three steals in 110-99 win. The Cavs (37-22) are now just one game a back of the second-place Toronto Raptors (37-20) in the Eastern Conference standings. JASON MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

NHL

### Dubnyk gives Wild edge over Preds

Nino Niederreiter scored two goals, and the Minnesota Wild beat Nashville 4-2 Thursday night.

Devan Dubnyk also made 27 saves as he improved to 14-3-2 since being acquired by Minnesota in mid-January. With the win, the Wild jumped the Flames to move back into the final wild-card spot in the Western Conference. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Blue Jays get early sprinkle of bad luck

**Blue Jays.** B.C.'s Saunders out till July after freak sprinkler accident

Michael Saunders tore his left meniscus on a sprinkler at spring training and will have to undergo surgery to repair it. He's expected to return only at the mid-July all-star break. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Blue Jays roster already dotted with question marks became a little more uncertain Thursday.

News that Canadian Michael Saunders had suffered a knee injury in a freak sprinkler head accident added a red flag in left field and left Toronto manager John Gibbons with another spring-training headache.

The 28-year-old Victoria native is expected to undergo surgery to repair a torn meniscus and not be back until the mid-July all-star break, GM Alex Anthopoulos said.

Slugger Edwin Encarnacion arrived Thursday to see Saunders hobble out.

"I drove my car inside and I see Saunders with the two crutches. Wow," Encarnacion said. "A little frustrating."

"Before spring training starts, it hurts," he added. "That's very hard for him and for the team because we need him."

Friday marks the first full workout for the team involving star position players like Encarnacion, Jose Bautista and Jose Reyes.

Gibbons has to sort out second base, settle on a centre-fielder, figure out his first base and designated hitter permutations, decide on his catching options beyond Russell Martin, choose a closer, and flesh out both his bullpen and the tail end of his starting rotation.

He remains optimistic, citing key additions like Martin and third baseman Josh Donaldson. "I think this is the best team we've had."

But he acknowledged it is proving to be one of the more challenging spring trainings.

"It's probably the most important, because we've got some decisions we've got to make that we've got to get right. There's some jobs at stake."

Saunders' left-handed bat will be missed. He hit .273 with eight home runs and 34 RBIs over 78 games in 2014.

The Jays had planned an outfield of Saunders in left, Canadian Dalton Pompey or Kevin Pillar in centre and Bautista in right. Pompey and Pillar have 96 big-league games between them.

Anthopoulos has already started making calls about possible outfield replacements but said any move would likely come at the end of the spring and would have to be tempered by what happens when Saunders returns. THE CANADIAN PRESS


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## Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

### ♈ Aries
**March 21 - April 20**
A clash of egos is likely over the next 24 hours but that's OK. It's time you reminded certain people that you are the boss. Don't go too far though.

### ♉ Taurus
**April 21 - May 21**
You will go out of your way to calm someone down but your efforts may not be enough. The fact is their emotions are a bit raw, so make allowances.

### ♊ Gemini
**May 22 - June 21**
Ask others for their opinions today but don't let what they say bind you to a certain course of action. Others will respect you more if you act according to your own principles.

### ♋ Cancer
**June 22 - July 23**
No one is perfect, not even a Cancer, and if you accept that fact you won't waste valuable time worrying that you failed to live up to expectations.

### ♌ Leo
**July 24 - Aug. 23**
Someone will appeal to your sense of duty but you must not blindly do as they ask. You are willing to help but you must be convinced that what you are doing is for the greater good.

### ♍ Virgo
**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**
You will trust what you are told on the work front today, simply because the person doing the telling is someone you look up to. However, according to the planets they have got it wrong.

### ♎ Libra
**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**
You cannot solve your problems by throwing cash at them. If anything that will just make matters worse. According to the planets it won't be long before a better way presents itself.

### ♏ Scorpio
**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**
Spend as much time as you can with loved ones because over the weekend they will be very busy and you will have things to occupy you as well.

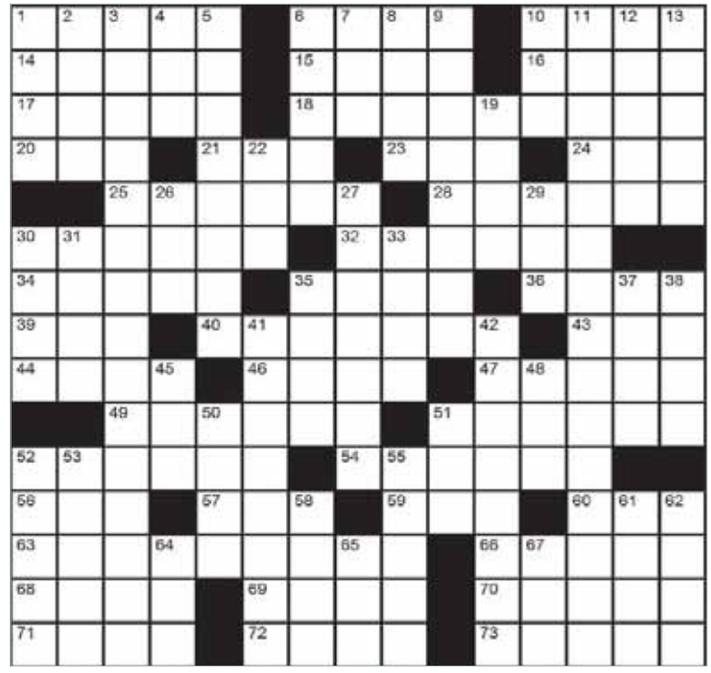
### ♐ Sagittarius
**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**
If someone throws their weight around your instinct will be to start throwing things back at them, but don't be too hasty. A more effective response is to ignore them.

### ♑ Capricorn
**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**
Be careful when dealing with people in positions of authority today. It does not matter that you are right, what matters is that they have the power.

### ♒ Aquarius
**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**
A loved one will tell you something you don't want to hear today, not least because it involves bad things about a person you like. Their motive is to drive a wedge between you.

### ♓ Pisces
**Feb. 20 - March 20**
Someone you live or work with will try to take liberties over the next 24 hours and you must not let them get away with it. If they do it once they will try again!

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



**Across**

1. "Sing, Sing, Sing" drummer, Gene __ (b.1909 - d.1973)
6. Brood
10. Scheduled date, briefly
14. Banqueted
15. Bee Gees: "More __ a Woman"
16. Ms. Kunis
17. Annually, __ _ year
18. New Brunswick community known for a tragic 1959 storm
20. Old English letter
21. Curly's pal
23. __-Fi
24. Personal history blurb
25. Guarantee
28. Coach in Archie Comics
30. Workshop tools
32. Sun: French
34. Primitive painter of France, __ 'Le Douanier' Rousseau
35. A-F link
36. Batch
39. 'Prop' suffix (Fuel)
40. Spectators' cry of double displeasure
43. Spring month
44. Mrs. Lincoln's maiden name
46. Emily Carr book, __ Wyck
47. Janis Joplin's nickname
49. Red Square city
51. Arctic Circle = __ Arctique
52. Music-listener's purchase
54. Mr. John of CBC comedy "Mr. D"
56. Angle type, briefly
57. Sundance Film Festival actor ...his initials-sharers
59. Mythical bird
60. Gremlin
63. Frisbee's friend
66. Vietnam's capital
68. Prefix meaning 'Within'
69. Friend for Francoise
70. Spew
71. Curious George co-writers Margret and H.A.
72. Front-of-the-pack position
73. Cheeky

**Down**

1. "Mother-in-Law": 1961 hit for Ernie _-__
2. Tangerine part
3. Righteous Brothers hit: 2 wds.
4. Baseball great, "__ Wee" Reese
5. Eve's origins: 2 wds.
6. Turn
7. Hesitant sounds
8. Quebec 'lakes'
9. Moose __, Canadian parka company
10. "Who __ _ to say?"
11. Virgil's smuggled goods in Mordecai Richler's 1959 novel The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz: 2 wds.
12. SVP part
13. Old El Paso creations
19. "The Green __" (1999)
22. 'Humor' suffix
26. Sun. message
27. Shuns
29. '_' __ for Elmira
30. Excellent, in slang
31. Stand-up guy Jay
33. Garfield's pal
35. Western-style tie
37. Actor, James __ Jones
38. Actor Noah
41. Wild West - 1881: Legendary gunfight site in Arizona, _._. __
42. Song by Canadian band Walk Off The Earth
45. Val-_'__, Quebec
48. Hosp. units
50. Parched
51. __-Magnon Man
52. Post-rehab state
53. Bluegrass musician, _ __ Burnett
55. Recommended strongly
58. Ditto
61. Supermodel Kate
62. Sympathy
64. Feb. and Mar.
65. Ms. Peeples
67. Title in Turkey, variantly

## Yesterday's Crossword

## Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

## Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

**How to play**
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 9 | 1 | 7 | | 8 |
| | 1 | | | | | | 6 | |
| | | 4 | | 2 | | | 1 | |
| | 9 | | | | 5 | | 3 | |
| | | 3 | | | | 6 | | |
| | 8 | | 1 | | | | 2 | |
| | 7 | | | 4 | | 3 | | |
| | 3 | | | | | | 4 | |
| 8 | | 5 | 7 | 6 | | | | |

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## Yesterday's Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 3 |
| 8 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 2 |
| 2 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 7 |
| 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 7 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 6 |
| 9 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 |
| 6 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 4 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 9 |

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| | |
|---|---|
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| | |
|---|---|
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| **Costa Rica** Travel May 4 – May 11 | from $759 |
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| **Rome** Travel Apr 7 – Apr 21 | from $879 |
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| **Auckland** Travel Apr 3 – Apr 17 | from $1425 |
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